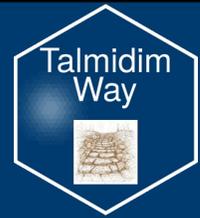


Cultural, Historic, and Geographic Context



Revelation Backgrounds 27

Two Feasts

Revelation 19



1

Acts 17:11 (KJV)

These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Unless otherwise noted, all biblical passages referenced are from the Complete Jewish Bible by David H. Stern. (Clarksville, MD: Messianic Jewish Publishers, 1998).



2

Revelation 19

After these things, I heard what sounded like the roar of a huge crowd in heaven, shouting, “Hallelujah! The victory, the glory, the power of our God! For his judgments are true and just. He has judged the great whore who corrupted the earth with her whoring. He has taken vengeance on her who has the blood of his servants on her hands.” And a second time, they said, “Hallelujah! Her smoke goes up forever and ever!” The twenty-four elders and the four living beings fell down and worshipped God, sitting on the throne, and said, “Amen! Hallelujah!” A voice went out from the throne, saying, “Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great!” Then I heard what sounded like the roar of a huge crowd, like the sound of rushing waters, like loud peals of thunder, saying, “halleluiah! Adonai, God of heaven’s armies, has begun his reign! “Let us rejoice and be glad! Let us give him the glory! For the time has come for the wedding of the Lamb, and his Bride has prepared herself— fine linen, bright and clean, has been given her to wear.” (“Fine linen” means the righteous deeds of God’s people.)



3

The angel said to me, “Write: ‘How blessed are those who have been invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb!’ ” Then he added, “These are God’s very words.” I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said, “Don’t do that! I’m only a fellow servant with you and your brothers who have the testimony of Yeshua. Worship God! For the testimony of Yeshua is the Spirit of prophecy.”

Next, I saw heaven opened, and there before me was a white horse. Sitting on it was the one called Faithful and True, and it is in righteousness that he passes judgment and goes to battle. His eyes were like a fiery flame, and on his head were many royal crowns. And he had a name written which no one knew but himself. He was wearing a robe that had been soaked in blood, and the name by which he is called is, “THE WORD OF GOD.” The armies of heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. And out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down nations—“He will rule them with a staff of iron.” It is he who treads the winepress from which flows the wine of the furious rage of Adonai, God of heaven’s armies. And on his robe and on his thigh, he has a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.



4

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out in a loud voice to all the birds that fly about in mid-heaven, "Come, gather together for the great feast God is giving, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of generals, the flesh of important men, the flesh of horses and their riders and the flesh of all kinds of people, free and slave, small and great!" I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to do battle with the rider of the horse and his army. But the beast was taken captive and with it the false prophet who, in its presence, had done the miracles which he had used to deceive those who had received the mark of the beast and those who had worshipped his image. The beast and the false prophet were both thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. The rest were killed with the sword that goes out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.



5

Parables of the Wedding Feast/Wedding Clothes - Mat 22:1-14

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, [2] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, [3] and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. [4] Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'" [5] But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, [6] while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. [7] The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.'



6

[10] And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. [11] “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. [12] And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ [14] For many are called, but few are chosen.”



7

Parable of the dinner invitation (Mt 22:1-14)

- King = God
- Wedding banquet = the messianic banquet in Revelation 19
- Servants calling = the prophets and Yeshua issuing a call to repent
- Those invited = those who heard the call (but did not necessarily respond to it)
- The excuses = deceits of wealth and materialism
- Killing the servants = murdering the prophets and Yeshua
- Burned their city = the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE
- Bad and Good = sinners, tax collectors, prostitutes
- **Meaning: those who do not repent will face punishment in this world and lose their place in the messianic banquet**

•Parable of the wrong clothes (Mt 22:2, 10-14)

- King = God
- Wedding banquet = messianic banquet in Revelation 19
- Guests – those who enter the kingdom
- Garments = righteous deeds, including repentance and keeping Jesus’ commands (so “no garments” is a lack of repentance and deeds)
- Outer darkness = Gehenna
- **Meaning: an invitation to the banquet does not guarantee a place at the table. We must respond to the invitation with repentance and righteous deeds done in His power, not our own.**



Source: Lancaster, D.T. *Chronicles of the Messiah* v. 4

8

Commanded to Praise

Revelation 19:1

After this, I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

References

Psa 104:35 Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

הַלְלוּ-יְיָ



9

Redeemer of Blood

Revelation 19:2

for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality and has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

References

Psa 19:9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

Num 35:19 The avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death.

Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."



10

Smoke Forever

Revelation 19:3	References
Once more, they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever."	Isa 34:10 Night and day it shall not be quenched; its smoke shall go up forever. From generation to generation, it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it forever and ever.



11

Praising from the Heavenly Throne

Revelation 19:4-5	References
And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great."	Psa 106:48 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD! Psa 115:12-13 The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron; [13] he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.



12

The Messianic Banquet

Revelation 19:6

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

References

Ps 97:1 The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

Exodus 15:18 The LORD will reign forever and ever.

Isa 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." 

13

The Bride is Ready

Revelation 19:7

7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready;

References

Isa 25:6-9 On this mountain, the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. [7] And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. [8] He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. [9] It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation." 

14

Our Righteous Deeds

Revelation 19:8

it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure” — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

References

Rev 17:4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality.

Lev 16:4 He shall put on the holy linen coat and shall have the linen undergarment on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments. He shall bathe his body in water and then put them on.



15

What about Isaiah 64:6? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.

Numerous other verses command us to do good deeds.

Jas 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

The issue is doing good deeds to curry favor with God or men, versus deeds that reflect a selfless love for others.

Mat 6:1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”



16

Invited to the feast

Revelation 19:9

And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."

References



17

Don't worship angels

Revelation 19:10

Then I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

References

Col 2:18 Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind



18

Faithful, True, Righteous

Revelation 19:11

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness, he judges and makes war.

References

Titus 2:13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.
 Eze 1:1 In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the exiles by the Chebar canal, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.
 Jer 42:5 Then they said to Jeremiah, "May the LORD be a true and faithful witness against us if we do not act according to all the word with which the LORD your God sends you to us.
 Isaiah 42:13 The LORD goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war he stirs up his zeal; he cries out, he shouts aloud, he shows himself mighty against his foes.



19

A name no one knows

Revelation 19:12

His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.

References

Rev 2:17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.
 Dan 10:6 ...his eyes like flaming torches...



20

Robe Dipped in Blood

Revelation 19:13-14

He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

References

Isa 63:2-3 Why is Your apparel red and your garments like his who treads in the winepress? [3] "I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples, no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments and stained all my apparel.
Rev 5:6 And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain



21

Strike with a rod of iron

Revelation 19:15

From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

References

Isa 49:2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver, he hid me away.
Hosea 6:5 Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light.
Isaiah 11:4 but with righteousness, he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.



22

King of Kings

Revelation 19:16

On his robe and on his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

References

Deu 10:17 For the LORD, your God, is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe.

1 Sam 24:4 And the men of David said to him, "Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold, I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.'" Then David arose and stealthily cut off a corner (hem) of Saul's robe.



23

Not the "Lord's Supper" you're looking for

Revelation 19:17-18

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice, he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great."

References

Eze 39:17 "As for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD: Speak to the birds of every sort and to all beasts of the field: 'Assemble and come, gather from all around to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you, a great sacrificial feast on the mountains of Israel, and you shall eat flesh and drink blood.'

Gen 15:11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.



24

The Nations Rage

Revelation 19:19

And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.

References

Psa 2:1-6 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? [2] The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, [3] "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." [4] He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. [5] Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying, [6] "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."



25

Lake of Fire

Revelation 19:20

20 And the beast was captured and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

References

Matthew 25:41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"
 Ezekiel 38:22 With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter into judgment with him, and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples who are with him torrential rains and hailstones, fire and sulfur.
 Dan 7:11 "I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire."



26

Birds gorge on the flesh

Revelation 19:21

And the rest were slain by the sword from the mouth of him sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

References



27

Revelation 20: 1000 years / Defeat of Satan / White Throne Judgment
Revelation 21: New Heaven and New Earth / New Jerusalem
Revelation 22: Eden Restored (Tree of life restored, no curse) / final exhortation to 1st-century believers



28



29